## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : "

Toshiaki KATANO et al. :

Serial No. NEW : Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Filed May 7, 2004 : Attorney Docket No. 2004 0696A

MESSAGE PROCESSOR, APPARATUS :

CONTROLLING DEVICE, HOME

APPLIANCE, PROGRAM FOR MESSAGE

PROCESSOR, MICROCOMPUTER

SYSTEM, PROGRAM FOR

MICROCOMPUTER SYSTEM, AND

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE

PROGRAM PRODUCT : FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT.

**ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975** 

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
  - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

    Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

    counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of
    the Statement, or
  - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

- Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
   For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

   a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
   a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted
  - c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
  - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Toshiaki KATANQ et al.

Registration No. 41,471

Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 May 7, 2004

herewith,

Sheet 1 of 1		4 0								
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Date Submitted to PTO: May 7, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. SERIAL NEW		NO.				
				APPLICANT Toshiaki KATANO et al.						
				FILING DATE May 7, 2004			GROUP			
			U.	S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CI				FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AA	5,410,471	4-25-95	Alyfuku et al.						
	AB	6,397,606	6-4-02	Roh et al.						
	AC									
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	AE									
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	<del></del>		FORI	EIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	$\perp \perp$	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	Cı	.ASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AJ	2001-285308	10-12-01	Japan				abstract		
	AK	2850387	11-13-98	Japan				abstract		
	AL	2000-183941	6-30-00	Japan				abstract		
	AM	1 039 725	9-27-00	Europe				Х		
	AN									
	<del></del>	OTHER	DOCUMENT(S) (	Including Author, Title, Date, Pertine	ent Pages	, Etc.)				
	AO									
	AP									
	AQ									
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED						